



**City of New Haven
Department of Fire Service
160 YEARS OF DEDICATION**

**The Michael E. Grant Regional Fire Training
School Naming Ceremony**

A Firefighter's Prayer

*Lord, I ask You to be with me
In a very special way
As I face the challenges
Of a firefighter's day*

*I pray that You will help me
To be the best that I can be
For there are many people
Who do depend on me*

*And when duty calls to danger
Walk closely by my side
Instill in me great courage
Please be my strength, my guide*

*And whatever I am called to do
Always thankful I will be
That You have been the unseen guest
Walking next to me*



June 16, 2023 - 1:00 PM

**The Renaming of the New Haven Regional Fire
Training School
230 Ella T. Grasso Boulevard
New Haven, CT, 06511**

**Honorable Justin Elicker, Mayor
John A. Alston, Jr., Fire Chief**

Program

CHIEF MICHAEL E. GRANT

Chief Michael Grant first joined the ranks of the New Haven Fire Department in 1972 and he was a firefighter during a time when serious fires were commonplace. After acquiring considerable firefighting experience, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant in 1981 and to the rank of Captain in 1988.

He served as Assistant Drillmaster from 1979-1984 and also served as Drillmaster at the New Haven Fire Academy from 1984 to 1996 which time he was directly responsible for the training of several hundred new recruits.

In 1983, he was awarded the Medal of Valor, the department's second highest award, for attempting to rescue a man from a burning building on Elm Street. He also received four Medals of Merit and 23 Unit Citations during his long career.

In 1996 Michael Grant was promoted to the rank of Assistant Chief of Operations and he directed firefighting operations for nearly every fire that occurred during his time in office.

Having an intricate knowledge of firefighting and fire behavior, he soon became recognized as a brilliant field commander. He also organized and trained a specialized team of firefighters that would respond to hazardous materials and biohazard incidents throughout the city.

Additionally, he served on a task force that would assess the risks of a terrorist attack on New Haven and he worked with the United States Coast Guard and the Connecticut State Department of Public Safety to conduct risk assessments within the New Haven Harbor.

Michael Grant was promoted to Chief of Department in January 2003 by the Mayor John DeStefano. Upon taking office, he said that he was honored and proud to be the leader of one of the best fire departments in the country and that he was looking forward to the challenges that lie ahead. He cited post 9/11 security challenges and dealing with the city's financial constraints as being among his top priorities.

Chief Grant was inducted into the State of Connecticut Firefighters Association Hall of Fame in 2013. He was a member of many civic and professional associations, including the Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association, which he was honored to serve on its Executive Board until his retirement in 2014. He was the departments 15th Chief.

Processional.....	Assembly
Master of Ceremonies	Daniel Coughlin Assistant Chief of Operations
Invocation.....	Martin O'Connor Chief of Department, (Ret'd)
Pledge of Allegiance & Moment of Silence.....	Assembly
The National Anthem.....	Jett Parker
Remarks.....	Honorable Justin Elicker, Mayor
Remarks.....	Patrick Cannon, President of IAFF Local 825
Remarks.....	David Hartman, Fire Commissioner
Remarks.....	John A. Alston, Jr., Chief of Department
Remarks.....	Ralph Black, Assistant Chief of Operations (Ret'd) & Interim Chief of Department
Reflections-----	The Grant Family
The Unveiling for the Michael E. Grant Regional Training School	
Closing Prayer.....	Rev. Kelcy Steele, Fire Commissioner

Acknowledgements

Honorable Board of Fire Commissioners

David Hartman Chair, Barbara Vereen, Vice Chair, Vincent Mauro,
Rev. Kelcy Steele, Sharon E Jones